(c) Steps taken by the Government to combat militancy include, *inter alia*, deployment of Central Para military Forces and Army; improved coordination and sharing of intelligence between the security forces; as well as between the Central and State Governments modernisation/upgradation of State Police forces; reimbursement of security related expenditure; sanction of Special Central Assistance to the State Governments; declaration of some of the most seriously affected area as 'disturbed areas' and notification of some of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations'. The situation is also kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time for taking appropriate action. Government have also renewed their appeal to militant groups to come forward for talks.

Increasing Activities of Foreign Terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir

†1196. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are determined to stop the increasing activities of foreign terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether there is a constant rise in the activities of terrorists in Srinagar during the past few months;

(c) whether Government are still considering to extend the time-limit of cease-fire; and

(d) if so, the logic behind this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Security Forces have been instructed to act decisively against any act of terrorist violence. After the unilateral peace initiative declared by the Government of India, there has been a marginal increase in the number of incidents of militant violence in J&K.

(c) and (d) The Government has examined all aspects of the question in its totality and benefited from the consultations in an all party meeting held on 21st Februrary, 2001. Accordingly it has decided to further extend the peace initiative period till the end of May, 2001, to provide a chance for peace which is what the people of J&K need.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.